



# American Review of Eastern Orthodoxy

**MONTHLY**



**NEWS**

## FEATURE STORY

PACIFIC LUTHERAN  
THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY  
THE LIBRARY

### EPIPHANY OBSERVANCE

TARPON SPRINGS, Fla. - Flags and bunting streamed merrily in the breeze as 10,000 spectators and faithful gathered to observe the Feast of Lights = Epiphany here, in this old sponge-fishing colony on the Florida's West Coast.

Led by Archbishop Michael of the Greek Archdiocese of North and South America, the throngs started to assemble early at dawn in the beautiful St. Nicholas Orthodox Church for the Divine Services, which culminated in a procession to the bayou for the blessing of the waters and the ceremony of the casting of the Cross into the waters of the bayou.

January 6th marked the 53rd time that the ceremony has been so observed in the history of picturesque Tarpon Springs. All pomp and pageantry of Biblical days was relished as the city came alive for the occasion. Following the Divine Liturgy, the Archbishop, robed in all his colorful vestments, came out of the Church and blessed the water and sprigs of Sweet Basil for all the faithful to take to their homes. Then, the procession started to the bayou. With the Archbishop leading, followed by the local priest (Father Constantine Raptis), by the bearer of the dove of peace, by the Byzantine Choir and Greek children in their old country Evzone costumes, and by thousands

of people, the procession wound its way to the docks, where the bayou waters lapped gently at the piers. Boarding a specially selected sponge boat, the Archbishop offered the prayers of the Service and finally the climax came when the Cross was cast into the waters, simultaneously with the release of the dove of peace. As the dove rose into the air, with streamers of blue ribbons flying from its feet, the divers leaped into the water and the scramble was on to find the Cross. The lucky one, William Kotis, who is a student at Tampa University and a Navy War Veteran, retrieved it and, as he knelt before the Archbishop, received a blessing. Later, he was awarded a solid gold cross, with his name engraved thereon, as a remembrance.

Celebrations, with dining and dancing, followed in homes and public places. Most notable was the 4th Annual National Banquet of AHEPA (American Hellenic Educational Progressive Ass'n.), which has over 300 chapters throughout the USA. At the banquet, Supreme President of the Order, Stephen Scopas, was present, along with other dignitaries, including the Archbishop. The Archbishop spoke on many matters of importance, most noteworthy of which was that he stressed: 'every Greek should pray for might and prosperity for this country.'

(Continued on page 2)

### Epiphany Observance (continued) -

Note: Historically, January 6th is not the exact date of Christ's Baptism. OLOGOS, the very excellent little publication, of which the Rev. George Mastrantonis of St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church in St. Louis, Mo. is Editor, carried the Epiphany Story in its Vol. 4, No. 9 issue. The following are abstracted quotations:

'This day was the birthday of Eon, the patron of Alexandria, and the Gnostics had designated Christ as one of the Eons in their elaborate system....It is known that in the East the Nativity of Christ was celebrated together with Epiphany on the 6th of January, while in the West the Nativity had been celebrated long before Epiphany became known...In the West, in some places at least, the celebration centered in the Magi since the celebration of Christmas on December 25th had more or less absorbed the Person and Work of the Christ. In the East, the Nativity, after being introduced from the West, was designated to be observed also on December 25th - probably by the Arians in Antioch. This happened

about 50 years after Epiphany was designated. In fact, St. Basil, as well as St. Gregory had attempted to differentiate between the two celebrations, by imposing the name of 'Theophany' on the Birth of Christ, Dec. 25th, and keeping the name 'Epiphany' for the celebration on the 6th of January. However, they were unsuccessful....The Armenian Monophysites, who have preserved the ancient tradition of combining the Nativity with Epiphany, still celebrate the Nativity of Christ on the evening of January 5th and Epiphany with the Sanctification of the Waters on the 6th of January.'

\*A complete copy of the entire 8 page tract on the Feast of Lights may be obtained by writing OLOGOS, P.O.Box 8323, Chicago, 7, Illinois. Enclose 20¢ in stamp or coin for each copy desired.

## NOTICE TO READERS -

American Review of Eastern Orthodoxy is published as a Monthly News Review. Readers are invited to send in such local or other news as they may wish. Wherever space permits, these will be used.

The publishers are commencing the AREO QUARTERLY. It will be published in a Winter, Spring, Summer and Fall series. The first issue will be released in the Winter of 1956. The subject matter will deal with articles on history, tradition, state of the Church, doctrine, dogma and many other phases of religion. Subscription prices to this Quarterly will be \$2.00 per year (50¢ additional for subscriptions outside U.S.A.)

NOTE: A combined subscription price for both the American Review of Eastern Orthodoxy (a monthly) and the AREO Quarterly is available at \$4.25 per year (\$1.50 additional for subscriptions outside U.S.A.) Present subscribers will receive both at no extra charge.

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## Back up your opinions with facts





It is of great import, from time to time, to examine into and determine the state and advancement of religion in America. To do this, one has to, perforce, examine into trends, as well as statistics. Whether or not the public is truly more religious or ethical, with advancing times, is something that can not be examined into in an article of the scope of this; therefore, only facts will be presented and considered.

To commence, it behooves us to look first at Church construction. During 1955 it proceeded at an accelerated rate, in spite of mounting building costs. The total year's expenditures were \$736,000,000. The previous high had been \$593,000,000 in 1954. It was also noted that a strong preference for modern design was quite apparent, both in buildings erected, as well as in designs submitted. In keeping with this amazing growth, Dr. W.M. Wickizer of the Principles of Christ Church predicted that Church building would proceed at a rapid rate for the next twenty years. He stated that the twenty-five year period of 1950 - 1975 would see an expenditure of \$8,000,000,000. He also anticipates a total of 105,000 brand-new Protestant churches in the same period, with four times the present number of ministerial recruits needed to serve them.

It is quite obvious from the foregoing that people are going-to-church. Church attendance reached an all-time high in 1955. Approximately 49,600,000 adults at church each week in 1955. This represents an increase of 30% over 1950. It is noteworthy that about  $\frac{1}{2}$  of all adults went to church during the week, as opposed to one-third during 1940. In addition, it comes to light that the average American, of college level, attends church more often than those with a high school education; the same is true in reference to high school levels attending more frequently than those with grammar school, or lower, education. Highest attendance, proportionately, is found in cities with populations of 2,500 to 50,000. Women outnumber men in attendance. The season of the year has very little to do with average attendance. Catholics attend more faithfully than Protestants.

Financially, the picture is also different from previous years. Again 1955 saw an all-time high in giving. The grand, recorded total for all Protestant and Eastern Orthodox Churches was \$1,687,921,000. The average Church-goer gave about \$1.00 per week; this is also higher than ever before. The Wesleyan Methodist Church led all others in average member donations = \$3.40 per week.

Expenditures saw over a billion dollars spent by Protestants on providing health and welfare for 11,000,000 peoples in need. 600 hospitals, 65 clinics, hundreds of shelters, and homes for convalescent and aged also shared in this vast sum. The U.S. Assistant Secretary of Health announced, in keeping with this, that public and private social welfare services must expand another 15% by 1965 to keep abreast of needs. All of this adds up to a future growth that means millions and millions of new dollars that must be raised.

The drift towards merger among various bodies in the religious field also took a share of the spotlight. Four Lutheran bodies adopted a tentative agreement to merge into a united body to be known as the 'American Lutheran Church'. Discussion on it has been set for the 1956 conventions of the four groups; combined, they would have a membership of 2,000,000. As such, it would rank as one of the three largest Lutheran Churches in America. Presbyterians set a date for May of 1958 for a merger of the Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A. and the United Presbyterian Church of North America. These two bodies will then have a combined membership of 3,000,000.

The Evangelical & Reformed Church and Congregational Christian Church merger, which has been held up by a Court Restraint, is expected to be completed in June, 1957. To be known as the United Church of Christ, it will have a membership in excess of 2,000,000.

Further interesting points, from varied sources, reveal the following =  
The American Bible Society announced it had spent \$3,500,000 during 1955. Since 1816, when it was founded, it has distributed over 466,231,000 Scriptures in many tongues; in 1955, alone, 9,000,000 Scriptures were distributed; 3,000,000 to Armed Forces Chaplains.

2. A county by county census of church and synagogue is being presently conducted by the National Council of Churches of Christ in USA. It is expected to include all religious groups and will enable them to determine their constituency in any county in the land. It will be released in 1956. The last Federal Census of religious bodies was in 1936; altho action is being taken to urge the government to undertake a 1956 census in the religious field. It would be invaluable for studying trends and growth.
3. It was reported that more than 35,000,000 volunteer workers for philanthropic and religious causes have been recorded; 10,000,000 active in church groups and one-seventh engaged in fund-raising efforts.
4. In foreign lands, it was noted that =
  - a. TOKYO : 512,400 Christians were reported as being listed; 285,000 Protestants - 194,000 Roman Catholics - 33,000 Eastern Orthodox. There are 3,747 churches that were listed in Japan: 3,072 Protestant - 575 Roman Catholic - 100 Eastern Orthodox.
  - b. CANBERRA, Australia : 8,033,754 of 8,986,530 registered persons professed that Christianity was their religion. Largest increases were among Greek Orthodox and Lutheran, both of which rose by 73.7% to totals of 74,760 and 116,178 respectively.
  - c. AFRICA : There are still 112,000,000 pagans.
  - d. BURMA : There are only 400,000 Christians out of 17,000,000 people.
  - e. INDIA : Only a fourth of the 360,000,000 have heard of Christianity; only 9,000,000 are Christian.
  - f. EGYPT : There are about 2,000,000 Christians in a land of 22,000,000.
5. Two different surveys, taken during 1955, raised two opinions of vital interest:
  - a. Contemporary Protestantism is not 'effectively' at work in the heart areas of our changing cities.
  - b. Religion is dividing, rather than uniting one out of every five 'Protestant' families. 20% of families polled, showed a split by different religious ties. Two distinct types of 'split' families were revealed -
    - i. Families where father and mother went to different churches.
    - ii. Families where the mother went faithfully to church, but the father went nowhere.
6. Catholics and Protestants are holding prayers for unity in the long-divided family of Christendom. Both major branches started the prayers some years ago, consisting of a 'week' of special prayer services. The Catholics call this period of prayer the 'Chair of Unity Octave' (8 successive nights of prayer for conversion of groups outside Rome). The Protestants call their period the 'Universal Week of Prayer for Christian Unity'. In the Catholic observance, the emphasis is on a 'return' of Protestants to Rome; the Protestants refer to this approach as being the biggest obstacle in the path of such a Unity.
 

In connection with this, the V. Rev. Alexander Beaton of the Roman Catholic 'Graymoor' at Garrison, N.Y. preached recently in Washington D.C. at the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception. His theme was: 'Return of all to the Fold of St. Peter.' Included among the lost or 'separated brethren' were EASTERN ORTHODOX, Anglicans, Lutherans and others.

● It is always interesting to note that people always want other people to 'return' or 'come' to their Way. Perhaps it might be more significant if all people first determined what the 'Way of Christ' is, and then everyone 'return' to that Way. After all, the Way of St. Peter, may not always reflect the Way of Christ. Editor -
7. Fall enrollment of men and women in the Nation's theological schools, showed an increase of 7.7%. There were nearly 31,000 theological students enrolled last Fall, as compared to 28,760 in 1954. Of these, approximately 20% were women students. Total enrollment for colleges and universities was more than 3,000,000, for the first time in history.
8. Dr. E.H.S. Chandler, director of the World Council of Churches Service to Refugees said that a total of 12,284 refugees were resettled in 1955 by that agency. U.S.A., Australia, and Canada lead, in that order, among countries receiving the bulk of refugees.
 

● Statistics do not always prove points; but, usually the trends do indicate certain definite developments. To analyze the reasons for the trends is another matter, as stated previously. Sufficient is given here, however, to enable the average person to form an opinion. Editor



## AROUND THE WORLD WITH THE CHURCH

### GENERAL FOREIGN NEWS :

CAIRO - Egypt's new constitution, while proclaiming Islam the State religion, guarantees freedom of worship and religious practices:

Preamble: 'We, ... assured of freedom of thought & worship in an atmosphere where there are no dic-

es save those of conscience and reason...'

Article 3: 'Islam is the religion of the State and Arabic is its official language.

Article 5: 'The State guarantees liberty, security, safety and equality of opportunity for all.'

Article 6: 'The family is the fundamental unit in society and its basic constituents are religion, morality and patriotism.'

Article 31: 'Equality of all Egyptians is established by law. They are equal in respect of rights and obligations without discrimination on account of race, origin, language, religion or creed.'

Article 43: 'Freedom of worship is unrestricted. The State guarantees free religious practices in accordance with established usage in Egypt providing this does not conflict with public order and morality.'

### ALEXANDRIA, Egypt -

### Newsletter - Special to AREO

His Beatitude, Christophoros II, Patriarch of Alexandria and All Africa, presided on New Year's Eve at the Ceremony of the cutting of 'St. Basil's Cake', and declared before the Greek, Russian and Syrian Orthodox Notables of Alexandria, that, owing to financial difficulties he had applied to Alexis, Patriarch of Moscow, for help. He had visited there in July, 1955. The Patriarch Alexis was responsive to the plea of the 80 year old Patriarch Christophoros and reportedly will send him a monthly draft of 2,000 Egyptian pounds (\$5600). The report also stated that the money will be transmitted thru the Soviet Ambassador in Egypt. As reported last month in these pages, the Patriarch Alexis also gave orders to provide the old Alexandria Cathedral of St. Sava (318 AD) with a 7 ton Russian bell.

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Prior to the Great Schism between East and West, there were 40 Greek Monasteries in Rome. Nowadays, only one abbey, of the Greek Rite, exists in the Eternal City; it is known as the Abbey of Our Lady of Grottaferrata and was founded in 1004 AD.

In November of 1955, the fathers and brothers of the Abbey celebrated the 900th anniversary of the passing of St. Bartholomew, disciple and co-founder with St. Nilus the Younger. The Grottaferrata Library, which was inaugurated since those days, has been famous since the time of Bessarion, a Greek Cardinal who tried four times to become Pope (15th Century). At the celebrations of Nov. 11-13, 1955, the Alexandria Patriarchate was invited. Patriarch Christophoros II delegated as his envoy, the Chief Librarian Dr. T.D. Mosconas to represent him. The new Grottaferrata Library, replacing the old, was inaugurated at this celebration, and Dr. Mosconas read a letter in Greek, from the Patriarch, to the distinguished gathering. The gathering was presided over by Cardinal Tedeschini and Dr. Rossi, the Italian Minister of Education. This was the first time that Greek was heard within the Abbey in 500 years. The Abbot of Grottaferrata sent back a letter and a magnificent Byzantine Icon to the Patriarch in return.

\*

Patriarch Christophoros sent his condolences to the Jerusalem Church, on the passing of Patriarch Timotheos; also to the Archbishop of Canterbury at the death of Archbishop Orbett of York. Both of these men were friends of the Patriarch, he having known them for a period of years.

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PARIS - Back in 1944, three young Protestant students, fired with zeal to 'end the scandal of Christians who all profess to love their neighbor but who live in separation', established a community of Protestant monks on a hilltop, near the ancient medieval abbey ruins of Cluny (near Taizé). Today, they have twenty monks, mostly members of the French Reformed Church. They support themselves as laborers, artisans and gardeners. An aluminum ring on their left hand is their only outward symbol of their vocation; however, for religious service they do wear white hoods.

Here, they have compiled an 'evangelical and ecumenical prayer book'. They have even adopted some of the GREEK ORTHODOX rites. Their hymns and psalms are set to both Gregorian and Byzantine chants, as well as to Anglican Church music and Bach motets.

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#### BELGRADE -

Two Serbian Orthodox Theological colleges will be enabled to have running water and bathrooms, plus fuel and food, thru the courtesy of the World Council of Churches which gave them \$9,000. The schools are located near Rakovica and Prizren. Due to the severe winter weather, they had customarily remained closed from Dec. 1 to March 1; this year they opened Feb. 1st. An additional \$2,000 was also given them for use in printing some 36,000 icons, which will be distributed thruout Orthodox Churches in the country.

Serbian Orthodox Patriarch Vikentije issued a condemnation of all persons who associate themselves with any form of spiritualism. He attacked spiritualist mediums as being either 'deranged' or 'seeking to profit from the grief or curiosity of others'. He concluded 'The Church preaches the existence of a spiritual world and the immortality of the human soul and it believes in this, but whosoever busies himself with spiritualism is a traitor to the Christian faith and a sinner transgressing the Church's commandments which forbid such an activity.'

The executive board of the government-backed 'patriotic' priests association complained that several of their members are being 'heavily and unfairly taxed by local authorities'. This association claims to represent nearly three fourths of all Orthodox priests in Yugoslavia. They further issued a commendation, praising the Patriarch Vikentije for his effort to heal the breach with the Macedonian branch of their church; altho they expressed regret at the continued refusal of the Serbian Council of Bishops to recognize their association.

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JERUSALEM - More than 40,000 of Israel's 1,774,000 inhabitants are Christians, according to the Govt'. Information Service. Protestants number 2,000; EASTERN ORTHODOX 13,400; Armenian 1,030; Egyptian Copts 700; Ethiopian Copts 40; Roman Eastern Rite 23,000. The largest non-Jewish group is, of course, the Moslem.

Controversy is running high between high and low Orthodox clergy over the choice of a successor to the late Patriarch Timotheos. The high clergy wish him to be a native of the Greek Isle of Samos, as were all the Jerusalem Patriarchs for the last two centuries. The low clergy demand it go to a local personage, particularly an Arabian. (Incidentally, the late Patriarch left a request that he be entombed in a sitting position, altho custom dictated otherwise, his wishes were complied with.)

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ATHENS - Prime Minister Karamanlis ordered an investigation of police persecution of the Greek Evangelical Church. Five women were so severely injured in the last attack, that they had to be hospitalized. The persecution is centered, to a degree, in Neos Mylotos, Macedonia.

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POLAND - Communist leaders have ordered a screening of all party members, to weed out all those who persist in attending church, who send their children to church, or who observe religious holidays.

Communist authorities have ordered newsprint to religious publications cut an additional 10 to 15%. Paper is also being withheld from a 100,000 printing of the Bible, altho the type is all set and waiting.



**NIENS** - Dr. Gregory Papamichael, Greek Orthodox theologian and managing editor of 'Elesia', official Church organ, died here. He was 80 years of age. He had been professor of Christian apologetics and encyclopedia at the University of Athens since 1918. His literary efforts included: 'Jesus Christ as an Historic Person' - 'Maximos Grekos' - the 1st volume of 'Apologetics' - and a 650 page history of the Russian Orthodox Church. He was also the founder of the bi-monthly publication 'Pantainos', which is the official organ of the Patriarchate of Alexandria.

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**STON, Mass.** - Archbishop R.J. Cushing, Roman Catholic, stated that Journalists should be lovers of truth and unshakeable columns of resistance'... 'The truth of which we speak is the truth of vision by which we see events as they actually happen, and the truth of preparation is that by which we faithfully report those events...' In keeping with the above statement, the following events in foreign lands are here reported. Editor -

**PLES, Italy** - Charles 'Lucky' Luciano, vice-lord, is financing a home for deported gangsters, which will be run by a Roman Catholic priest, by name: Rev. Michele Blandino della Croce.

**COLOMBIA** - Pressure, both subtle and violent, is mounting against Protestants here. A Catholic campaign, directed by the Colombian Roman Catholic clergy and abetted by the government, is aimed at eradicating Protestantism. Beatings, killings, assaults, legal harassment, arson, and closing of schools rank in the list of acts being perpetrated against Protestants, clergy and laity. In 1955, 11 killed, 23 injured, 7 churches burned, 181 primary schools closed, 82 people jailed.

**WALL** in the name of God. Editor -

**ROME** - Rev. Bertini, Churches of Christ pastor at nearby Aprilia, and several members of his congregation were injured when townspeople stormed into the church and broke up religious worship services. The disturbance was led by youth belonging to the local Catholic Action group.

**SEVILL** - The Spanish government closed down the Evangelical Theological Seminary here. It is believed this was the only institution of its kind in Spain. No explanation was given for the act. The Seminary had been in existence for about 70 years, and was sponsored by the Spanish Evangelical and Spanish Reformed Episcopal Churches. A Chapel, within its doors, was allowed to remain open. Shades of the Inquisition. Editor -



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# GENERAL DOMESTIC NEWS :

**SHEBOYGAN, Wis.** - This Greek Orthodox Community of St. Spyridon will celebrate its 50th anniversary in June. Bishop Ezekiel will be invited to attend, for the purpose. The Church itself was built in 1906 as nice little brick building. At that time, there were about 1000 members, but many of them left for their Father-Land, during the Balkan War and never came back. Today there are about 250 souls in the community. The Rev. Father Lolakas, who has served the Church for the last nine years, has added pews, a new hall, and automatic steam heat. The Byzantine Choir is made up of boys of the younger generation. Father Lolakas has composed the Liturgy music in a modern notation. Copies of it may be obtained by writing him at 1429 S. 10th Street, Sheboygan, Wis.

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**IRON, Ohio** - A news item, of last month's issue, designated the Rev. E.A. Sadvary as head of the Eastern Rite (Roman Catholic). In this, AREO was in error and apologizes. The Reverend Father is an Orthodox clergyman under the jurisdiction of the Most Rev. Orestes Chornock, of Bridgeport, Conn., who is head of the Orthodox Carpatho-Russian Greek Catholic Diocese of North and South America.

The article had to do with bingo in the Church, and appeared on page 8, Vol. II # I. Editor -

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TARPON SPRINGS, Fla. - In connection with the recent Epiphany Day celebration here, it is interesting to call to remembrance a previous year, 21 years ago, when a solid gold cross was used in the ceremony. It was studded with rubies and was never recovered, but lies at the bottom of the bayou, deep in the muddy bottom.

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NEW YORK - The Greeks braved the cold waters of two rivers in separate services here. Gold crucifixes were retrieved from both the East and North Rivers in the traditional Greek Orthodox observance of Epiphany. The V.Rev. Vasilios Manousol of St. John the Baptist led the one procession to the East River; and the other service proceeded from St. Nicholas Church, near the Battery area.

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GARY, Indiana - March 25, 1956, Sunday of Orthodoxy, will be especially significant here in St. Sava's Church, as the combined Orthodox Churches of the Calumet Region (Hammond, Gary, East Chicago, Indiana Harbor) will participate. Each priest will take part in his own native tongue; the sermon will be in English. The entire Service will be broadcast over the local Hammond Radio Station, WJOB. This same group of clergy have a weekly Radio program on Sundays from 5:30-6:00 P.M. (Rev. L.T. Greanias, Greek - Rev. S. Jula, Russian - Rev. P. Darmoc, Ukrainian)

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ROCHESTER, N.Y. - The V.Rev. John Yanchisin, dean of Upper New York of the American jurisdiction of the Russian Orthodox Greek Catholic Church, stated that verbal agreement had been reached with the University of Rochester to purchase three buildings on the abandoned women's campus, for use as a nucleus of a liberal arts college. He said further, that a seminary for priests of the Eastern Orthodox Catholic Faith also might be brought there.

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NEW YORK - Alexandra Tikhonovich Gretchaninoff, 91, one of the last members of the 19th century romantic school of Russian music, died January 3rd here. He studied with the great Rimsky-Korsakoff at the St. Petersburg Conservatory. He wrote more than 300 songs and many choral compositions, including music for the Russian Orthodox Church Liturgies.

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NEW YORK - Mrs. Clara Busch Von Gontard Liengme made gifts recently of shares of Anheuser-Busch Brewery stock to the Serbian Relief Committee of America (100 shares) and to the Eastern Orthodox Catholic Church (250 shares). The shares are valued at about \$20 each.

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CAMBRIDGE, Mass. - Dr. Georges Florivsky, recently removed as Dean of St. Vladimir Seminary (Russian), has been named a professor of church history at Harvard Divinity School. As such, he plans to commute between Cambridge and New York, at least during the spring semester.

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NEW YORK - A resolution condemning Free Masonry was introduced into the minutes of the 9th All-American Church Sobor of the Russian Orthodox Church of North America, which was held here last November. After hearing this resolution and a quoted portion of a Sobor of Bishops held in 1949, the All-American Sobor resolved: 'To consider this action of the Bishop's Sobor obligatory for the Metropolia and to accept it into practice with un-failing fulfillment'. The Rev. Fr. S.N. Jula of Hammond, Indiana was the author of the resolution.

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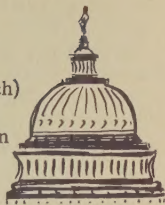
WOLF RUN, Ohio - It has been reported that the former priest of this Russian Patriarchal Church has left the jurisdiction and entered into that of the Syrian, under Metropolitan Bashir of Brooklyn, N.Y. - His name is Rev. David Abramtsov, just back from a trip to Moscow.



## CHURCH and STATE



WASHINGTON, D.C. - January 20th saw the opening of the Senate with an invocation by Metropolitan John(Theodorovich) of Bala-Cynwyd, Penna. He is head of one of the Ukrainian Orthodox bodies in U.S.A.; as such, he offered the prayer in commemoration of the 38th anniversary of the Ukrainian National Republic, which was proclaimed at Kiev in 1918.



WASHINGTON, D.C. - Senator Saltsonstall (Mass.) offered an

amendment to the Refugee Relief Act to permit 20,000 persons of Armenian origin to enter the U.S.A. In offering the bill, Archbishop Membre Calafayan, Primate of the Armenian Apostolic Church in America, gave testimony on behalf of his fellow peoples and told of their persecution and tribulations thruout the centuries and their need for shelter and opportunity in a new land.

• The first Armenian settlers to the U.S.A. were brought here in 1653 by Gov. Edward Digges of Virginia. Editor -

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WASHINGTON, D.C. - A series of spot items from our National Capital =

Rep.G. Huddleston, Jr. (Ala.) introduced a bill into the House which would make it possible for U.S. Savings Bond, Series E, to be endorsed directly to religious or non-profit organizations without being cashed by the owner.

The Dep't of Agriculture reported that 18 religious and other voluntary agencies had shipped 470,500 pounds of dairy products and cottonseed oil to needy persons in 70 countries during the last six month period. This is nearly as much as shipped during the entire 12 month period preceeding.

Army Chaplain E.M. Mize, Protestant Episcopal, has been named executive director of the Armed Forces Chaplains Board. He succeeds Air Force Chaplain V.M. Goodhand, who was a Methodist.

Chapel attendance by members of the U.S. Air Force and families topped the 10,000,000 mark for 1955. Total Sunday School attendance for the year was reported at 2,800,000.

The Bureau of Census stated that the idea of 1957 census of religious bodies is very much alive and it is hoped will be added to the supplemental budget proposals later in 1956.

The Small Business Administration pointed up the fact that churches which were damaged or destroyed in major catastrophies have not all taken advantage of the SBA disaster loan facilities. Out of 3224 disaster loans made, only three are for churches. Such loans as these are made on a 10 year basis, at 3% interest.

The recent Senate Sub-committee Hearings to Investigate Juvenile Delinquency heard statements from several Orthodox priests, as well as the Bishops Ezekiel and Polyefktos, and also Mr. L.G. Manesiotis of the Order of AHEPA. These hearings were conducted under the able chairmanship of = Senator Kefauver(Tenn.)

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HERE and THERE in the CHRISTIAN CHURCH in AMERICA =

BROOKLYN - Lew Ayres, actor, is filming a three part movie documentary study of the world's religions. Hinduism, Sikhism, Jainism, Parsism, Judaism, Islamism, Buddhism, Confucianism, Taoism, Shintoism, and the various facets of Christianity are to be a part of this monumental work. It is estimated the total showing time of the three parts will be about 18 hours in length.

NEW ALBANY, Ind. - A prefabricated church building, with nail-on brick and a stainless steel steeple has been fabricated by U.S. Steel. There are 15 designs available and they will range in price from \$15,000 to \$35,000.

(continued on page 14) -

## COLOR-BARRIERS and CHRISTIANITY

Thruout the world, today, considerable thought and anguish is being caused by unthinking leaders of the Christian world in particular. Prejudice, based largely on skin-color, is one of the most crucial and important of the points which have been epitomized by recent acts of these leaders. Examining a series of statements, which are set forth below, a conclusion can then be drawn =

Dr. E.C. Blake, president of the National Council of Churches, said in New York City : 'Is our church door really open to all people for whom Christ died? What steps must we take to show our repentance for the sins of our church with regard to race?'

Dr. G.C. Taylor, of Concord Baptist Church in Broojlyn, stated: 'The heavenly chorus is not a private concert and there is no ticket for admission to the manger.'

Rev. John LaFarge, editorial staff of the Roman Catholic 'America' publication, highlights the recent outbreaks against negro clergy in the Jesuit Bend (La.) incident, by stating that the Roman Catholic fraternal order of the Knights of Columbus in this country gave evidence of racial prejudice.

Rev. M.A. Thomas, a clergy of the Mar Thomas Church, a small Christian sect in South India, attended services in Atlanta, Georgia and said: 'When I discovered that the Church doors were closed to Negroes, it was impossible for me to worship. When the choir sang the words 'My Lord and Saviour', I asked myself: Whose Lord and Saviour? When the minister repeated the phrase later, I again asked myself: Whose Lord and Saviour.'

Julius Gecau of Kenya, East Africa said that Africans are not in revolt against white society, but against 'paternalism, racialism, and economic and political domination by a small white minority.' He warned that they are determined 'to contribute to the creation of a new social order.'

Dr. Ira W. Moomaw, executive secretary of the Rural Missions Cooperating Committee of the National Council of Churches of Christ, stated: 'The time is past when we can administer to the soul of man only and neglect his physical needs. The gospel is concerned both with the importance of man's physical condition and prosperity and with the spiritual climate in which economic improvements can best come about.'

Rev. Douglas Cederleaf of Chicago, attending the same meeting with Dr. Moomaw(above), heard comments on the Georgia Board of Regents banning Georgia football teams from playing where segregation laws are overlooked. He said: 'In this instance, the gospel is a failure and merely a front.' He noted newspaper stories had said that the regents had given 'prayerful consideration' to the matter; to this he added: 'They were praying to some man-made god, obviously a white god.'

Dr.B.B. Keet, head of the theological seminary in Stellenbosch, South Africa (Dutch Reformed Church) attacked the government's segregation policy and criticized his Church for supporting it. He said 'Let us acknowledge openly that Holy Writ draws no dividing lines or walls between the races of the world.....according to the Scriptures, everyone is my neighbor, and if this is so I must associate with him.'

The Anglican Church of East Africa consecrated three more natives as bishops, last May. Six of the 14 bishops of this Church body are native Africans, now. Six years ago, there was only one native on the bishops Council.

Dr. Fridtjov Birkeli, director of the World Missions Department reported that a recent All-Africa Lutheran Conference in Tanganyika evidenced the highest type of inter-racial relations, with both white and African sharing the same dormitories and hotels. He stated that the Conference also urged the speeding-up of handing-over of the responsibilities of the work, to native leaders.

The Dep't. of Racial and Cultural Relations of the National Council of Churches placed four obligations squarely on individual Christians as a test of their faith and belief in God and the teachings of Christ:

- i. Examine their own behavior and attitude 'in the light of the Gospel'.
- ii. Elimination of racial segregation from local churches and their denominations.



- ii. Exhibit firm behavior pattern of acceptance when questions of a racially inclusive fellowship are discussed.
- v. Ascertain what the churches, their denominations, and other community agencies are doing to improve race relations and then participate in their programs.

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Knowing the trend in human affairs, as shown in the above statements, one can see the trend of a new society in the Christian Church. The willing cooperation between racial groups, within the Christian structure, is fore-ordained. The political and economic aspect of it, perforce, follow later; even as society adjusts herself. Eddies in the current of change abound to occur, even as they do in a natural river. Such eddies are caused by stumps, rocks, and other remnants of a previous structure or existence. So it will be also with the social order.

In keeping with Christian principles, however, individuals form the keynote to the whole picture. A person must make a choice between Christianity and Churchianity. Editor -

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## THE DOUBTS OF YOUTH

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by Ernest A. Villas: GOYA

In the world of mankind there are certain fixed standards and values that are eternally unmovable. Among these are included the infinite search for truth, the dignity of man, the right to happiness, and the blessings of liberty. Today, many of these fundamental concepts are being challenged.

The amazing age of speed and electronics in which we live has greatly modified our way of life, and yet, the seemingly complex society of today is but the dawn of a future whose proportions stagger the imagination.

The lives of our young people living in this present age have become exceedingly complicated. Besides experiencing an era of fantastic technological advancement, they have been beset by two wars within a single decade, and faced with evaluating the violent conflicts of international ideologies. This has resulted in much confusion and caused many young people to ask questions, such as: 'Are the rules of yesterday good enough for today? Can anything be truly valid if not substantiated by scientific proof?' These are the doubts, these are the questions being asked by many of our youth. These same questions have been asked by man in every period of history, and always for the same reason....to gain an inner security and peace of mind upon which he can build his life with meaningful purpose. Knowingly or unknowingly, every man who ever lived has searched for these same basic truths. The answer has been found, but only after centuries of unceasing search and untold human sacrifice. It is embodied in a single word, **FAITH**. To Orthodox Christians, that Faith is founded upon the principles of Christianity as taught in their original and unchanged form by our most Holy and Apostolic Orthodox Church.

It is sometimes difficult for the academic student to accept and realize certain fundamental and proven truths whether they be scientific, spiritual or historical. And, precisely for this reason, one of the basic functions of our educational system is to produce evidence of certain existing truths to its students. In material and factual education, our youth is well equipped, but their spiritual edification leaves much to be desired. Yet, it is this same spiritual quality that for nearly 2,000 years has proven time and again to generation after generation that it alone holds the key to the inner security and peace of mind which all of us earnestly seek. Perhaps the greatest proof of this lies in the Church itself, which, through the centuries, has been able to withstand every conceivable attack by powerful adversaries, who, themselves, have fallen victim to their own philosophies.

The answer, to the questions of our youth, can readily be found embodied in our most measured of all fixed values = Christianity. If we will but accept its proven and hard-won truths and inject them into our personal lives, the insecurities and doubts that plague us will vanish forever. The invitation is ours, as it was to our forefathers, and as it will be to our children. May God grant us the wisdom to accept it.



## ARCHAEOLOGY - ANTIQUITIES - RELIGION

● Occasionally it is of interest to examine into new facts and discoveries of old periods and the peoples and habits and customs of those peoples that lived in by-gone ages.

Editor -



**BELGRADE** - Close historical links that existed between Yugoslav Dalmatia and the old Republic of Venice were further amplified with the recent discovery by the Yugoslav Institute for Scheduled Monuments of two paintings in Dalmatian churches. Both paintings were identified tentatively as being from the hands of Titian and Veronese.

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**BELGRADE** - The Archaeological Museum of Plovdiv, Bulgaria reports the discovery of a foundation of a large three-aisled early Christian church of the 5th century. The church lies in the center of a former Thracian village.

● The Thracians inhabited the area of Plovdiv, then called Philipopolis, prior to the arrival of the Bulgars in the 7th century. This may show that the Orthodox Saints Methodius and Cyril may actually not have been the first real missionaries to the Slavs. Editor -

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**JERUSALEM** - The Church of the Holy Sepulchre is in a very run-down condition. The shrine as it exists today, has been seriously weakened by earthquake (1927) and fire (1949) and by heavy rains of last winter. Among repairs most needed are those over the main entrance, plus the dome of the rotunda, the south facade, and especially the dome of the Catholicon, (Greek Orthodox) which is in serious condition.

● This Church is actually a group of ecclesiastical structures built during the past 900 years over and around the remnants of a large Romanesque edifice erected by the Crusader of the early 12th century. This Romanesque structure had been built on the site of preceding chapels, the first of which is believed to have been that built by Constantine in 336 AD. This early chapel is believed to have been built over the actual site of the tomb of Christ. Editor

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**MT. SINAI** - An expedition, led by Wendell Phillips to the isolated monastery of St. Catherine in 1950, made a series of microfilms of the monasteries treasure-house of historic documents and manuscripts. Over 2,000,000 pages were microfilmed. The Library of Congress, Wash. D.C. houses one of the two sets of the microfilms. Recently, Dr. E.A. Lowe of the Institute of Advanced Study at Princeton announced that a 9th or 10th century Latin manuscript from the revision of the Psalms by St. Augustine had been found among these documents. It differs profoundly in textual peculiarities from the 4th century version, which is at Verona.

● St. Catherine Monastery is a Greek Orthodox monastery, at present inhabited by only about 20 monks. It is located on Mt. Sinai and at its very center stands a 4th century Chapel of the Burning Bush (Ex. 3:2). Over twelve languages have been found amongst the great archival collection, showing the polyglot membership of the monasteries past. Editor -

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**NEW YORK** - Vol. 2 of the Complutensian Polyglot Bible, the first complete Bible with the Hebrew text, one of the world's rarest books, was sold at auction here for \$1200.

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**NEW HAVEN, Conn.** - A page from a Merovingian Bible in the library of Yale University Branford College has been authenticated by the world's leading music historians and scholars as the earliest known Christian music manuscript. The manuscript is Jeremiah: Lamentation 3:13-34. It is believed to have been written about 700 AD. It is a 10x18 inch parchment on which 'neumes', ancient musical note symbols, are written. It had escaped detection for centuries. Prof. Schrade of Yale stated that there is no known way to transcribe the 'neumes' into modern day music.

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WASHINGTON, D.C. - The White House has requested the Aramaic Bible Foundation to distribute reproductions of a letter written by the President, which referred to the Yonan Codex. The Foundation was using the letter in connection with fund-raising in the promotion of the ancient New Testament manuscript.

The January issue of AREO reported the story of the Yonan Codex on p.15. Editor -

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UNIVERSITY, Miss. - The Library of the University of Mississippi announced acquisition of two ancient Biblical manuscripts, which, it is hoped, will throw considerable light on the early Christian theology. One is on parchment and the other on papyrus. They are both in Greek and encompass the Books of Jeremiah, Lamentations, Jonah, Jude, St. Peter, and the treatises of Bishop Melito of Sardis on Easter. The parchment dates from the 5th or 6th century; and the papyrus from the 3rd or 4th century.

Bishop Melito was a 2nd century Church Father. Editor -

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MILWAUKEE, Wis. - A Bible, which may have come to this country on the Mayflower, was actually destroyed by a fire at St. Paul's Episcopal Church here. Church officials stated that the Bible came from John and Priscilla Alden. A descendant of the Brewsters had given it originally to the Church.

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EDMONTON, Sask. Canada - Three Canadian archaeologists are being sponsored by the Toronto Globe and Mail to take part in excavation work on the site of the ancient biblical city of Old Testament eras - Jericho.

This is the first project to ever be undertaken outside Canada, in the field of archaeology, by a Canadian institution. Editor -

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ODOSHIMA ISLAND, Japan - An image of Kwannon, Buddhism's Goddess of Mercy, which was enshrined recently in a new temple here, with prayers for world peace, was made from strands of hair from 109,000 Japanese and Indians, including Prime Minister Nehru.

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LONDON, England - A series of fragments of the pre-Homeric period are being translated by British classical historians. The studies are revealing that the historic names of Agamemnon, Orestes, Deucalion and Hector were actual personalities that were land-holders of the Isle of Crete over 3000 years ago, and also that Ariadne (who helped to slay the fabulous Minotaur) perhaps lived in an intricate building called the Labyrinth.

Herein, may be more truth than poetry; for truth is often stranger than fiction. Editor -

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NICOSIA, Cyprus - A.H.S. Megaw, Director of Antiquities in the Cyprus Government, in commenting on a recent discovery of a life-sized statue of the Greek God Apollo, stated it stood among other pagan gods in a forum at Salamis (near Famagusta). It is now in the Cyprus Museum, along with a head of Aphrodite (Venus).

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BERKELEY, Calif. - G.D. Woodward, scientist of the Univ. of California, has uncovered fossils of previously unknown kangaroo-like animals that lived about 10,000,000 years ago. He discovered them in N.E. New Guinea. Generally, scientists believe that such marsupial animals existed as long ago as 80,000,000 years, but had no fossil records to prove it.

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PORT BELVOIR, Va. - The discovery of a tree stump dating back to the Ice Age, 80 to 100 million years ago, was made near here. The stump is to be used at the entrance of a new experimental atomic power plant, here, as a symbol of the meeting of the Ice and the Atomic Ages.

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MONTREAL, Canada - The Arctic Institute of North America disclosed that insect specimens have been discovered in Alaska, 150 miles above the Arctic Circle. The specimens are 60,000,000 years old.

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ROME - The Rome University Institute of Human Paleontology announced that while Rome was founded, according to legend, in 753 BC by Romulus and Remus, that human prehistoric types inhabited the region over 200,000 years ago. Twenty-two hand axes have been found amidst the fossilized bones of prehistoric animals.

● Suffice it to say, that as science advances, history recedes. The 'Creative Week' of the Book of Genesis peers forth from the dim caverns of lost ages of time; and the 'Creative Days' appear to more and more be symbolic of eras of time, rather than 24 hour days as some eminent theologians and evangelists are prone to argue. Editor -

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BRONX, N.Y. - A relic of the Mesozoic era, a tuatara (Maori for 'spine-bearer'), was sent here from its native habitat on the small rocky islands off the coast of New Zealand. This primitive creature looks like a lizard, is about 2 feet long and weighs over a pound. There is a close resemblance between it and the fossilized bones of a reptile that used to roam the earth about 75 to 200,000,000 years ago.

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LONDON - It was disclosed here, that the now famous 'Dead Sea Scrolls' have been deciphered enough to indicate that a 'Teacher of Righteousness' existed about a century before Christ. Apparently, this 'Teacher' had striking parallels with the Life of Christ, even to being crucified. The monastery, near where the Scrolls were discovered, served as headquarters for a group of so-called 'religious extremists' known as the Sons of Zadok. This little community, as shown from the Scrolls, believed this 'Teacher' was favored with the gift of Divine Revelations; that he also wrote several psalms before his crucifixion; and that after crucifixion, they awaited his glorious return as 'Messiah of God'.

● As has been said before = time, alone, reveals all things. Editor -

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Here and There in the Christian Church (continued) =

PHILADELPHIA - 59 of 256 presbyteries of the Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A. have voted to allow women to be ordained. Approval by a majority is necessary to make it become a church law. Opposition is expected to come largely from the small presbyteries.



NEW YORK - Harvey S. Firestone, Jr., of the Tire & Rubber Co. of the same name, will serve as national Chairman of Brotherhood Week, Feb. 19-26, which is sponsored by the National Conference of Christians and Jews.

HORTON, Kansas - A piece of the 'true' Cross, on which Christ was crucified, was received by the local St. Leo Roman Catholic Church here. A document 'attesting' to its 'authenticity' has been locked up in a vault, by the priest. The relic will rest on the altar.

● Hmmmmm. Editor -

NEW YORK - Dr. Henry P. Van Dusen, president of Union Theological Seminary hailed the Christian College for Women as the most significant force in man's quest for learning. He stated that women's colleges have not only freed women from their historic bondage, but also 'fearless thinking has been bred in these institutions'.



ST. LOUIS - Harlie L. Smith, president of the Disciples of Christ Board of higher education gave warning to prospective religious students to investigate carefully the institutions of religious training, before entering. He stated that a large number of Bible Colleges are preacher trade schools. Dr. John O. Gross, exec.-sec'y. of the Methodist division of educational institutions, added that most of the schools thus described are 'propaganda institutions'. Jesse Bogue, exec.-sec'y. of the American Ass'n. of Junior Colleges urged that state departments of education exercise stronger control over such Bible Schools.



## RADIO and RELIGION

**LIBERIA, Africa** - Modern missionaries use Radio to spread religion in Africa. Great physical difficulties make it almost impossible to reach the peoples with religious messages and teachings; the use of Radio has eliminated this problem overnight.

Within one year, after opening, the Radio Station of the Sudan Interior Mission has eighteen missionaries and five Africans doing broadcastings. The Station is on the air about five hours daily and nine hours or more on Sundays. English, French, Arabic and forty-three African dialects are used. About half of the programs are music and public service; the remainder are of a religious nature. An average of nearly 2000 letters are received monthly from listeners. It is strongly believed that hundreds of thousands of natives have heard programs during the past year; this would not have been possible without Radio.

One often hears the question raised in Church circles: 'Why should our Church bother with a Radio Program?' or - 'Isn't it money wasted?'

The answer to this, of course, is perfectly obvious =

Radios are in approximately 95% of all American homes.

23,000,000 automobiles have radios.

Nearly every community has a local Radio Station, which caters to their local needs and understands their problems.

Christ gave us certain commands, among them:

- a. Go among 'all nations' and into every home.
- b. Visit the sick and afflicted; heal the heartbroken.



How can the Churches fulfill these obligations and responsibilities and meet their opportunities? The answer is: - Go into people's homes.

Naturally, it is impossible to do this in person to each and every home in an area, for the average clergyman; but, it can be done by the local Church and clergy thru RADIO. It necessitates constant and repeated broadcasts. The programs must be interesting; they must appeal to all listeners. Scripture, sermons, singing and music, Church teachings, question and Answer periods, and many other approaches must be adapted into such a program.

Recently, a disc-jockey developed a tremendous audience, upsetting all critic's opinions, by starting an entire program devoted to nothing but Gospel Hymns. When he started the program, every disc-jockey in the country laughed him to scorn. Later, results poured in by the thousands. Today, he is respected, because he gave the people something they really wanted; something a little better; something of God. Let us take a lesson from this.

Eastern Orthodoxy is neglecting its obligation and opportunity by not developing the use of Radio on a greater scale. Orthodoxy has age-old melodies, traditions and roots that reach deep into the human soul. A National Orthodox Hour should be devised. GOYA, FROC, EOYLA, SOYA, and others should endeavor to stimulate and activate such a program. It could be a program that originated in one local Station, capable of understanding such a production, and from there be distributed thruout the country to other local Stations. There are about 2200 Stations in the USA. Many of these can reach local Orthodox Church areas; and these smaller, local Stations can often do a better job, in this fashion, than networks.

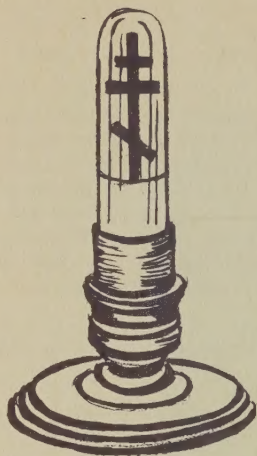
Orthodox Youth and its followers must bring this matter to the attention of their local Church Communities and organize, not only local programs, but an overall National Hour, in which they can all participate. This will save money, time and effort; it will make an effective broadcasting technique.

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